

AVERAGE SWORN NET PAID  
CIRCULATION, APRIL  
Daily .....35,606  
Sunday .....38,901

## TULSA DAILY WORLD

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## THE GREAT TULSA TORNADO

## GAS COMPANY IS ORDERED TO CUT RATES IN STATE

Judge Refuses to Allow Hikes Pending Appeal to Supreme Court

## REFUND IS HELD UP

Orders Rebating in Abeyance Pending Decision by Highest U. S. Court

## MAY BE DECIDED IN YEAR

Low Rates Will Be Billed to Gas Patrons, However; All Companies Affected

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 4.—Lower gas rates recently ordered put into effect in approximately half a hundred cities in Oklahoma stand at present ordered paid to consumers are held in abeyance under a decision handed down late today at Guthrie by Federal Judge John H. Cotten.

The decision was announced here tonight by Henry G. Snyder, special counsel for the state corporation commission.

The Oklahoma Natural was unsuccessful today in its application to Judge Cotten for a continuance of the higher rate pending the result of its appeal to the United States supreme court from the ruling of the federal court here April 29, which put the lower rate back into effect, according to Snyder.

Refunds to gas company patrons, therefore, will not be made until the appeal of the Oklahoma Natural to the United States supreme court is decided.

Must Wait a Year. According to Snyder, final action by the United States high court probably will not come before the end of this year. Until then payment of refunds is suspended.

Although the state corporation commission tonight did not decide on any action in the matter, it was believed in some quarters that the commission would not require the Oklahoma Gas & Electric and other companies involved in the order rebating rates, to make refund of the Oklahoma natural does. The other companies were not parties to the action brought today by the Oklahoma Natural.

## TAX HEARINGS ENDED

Oklahoma Equalization Board Is Now Ready to Assess Public Service Corporations.

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 4.—Representatives of railroads completed introduction of testimony before the board of equalization here today, which is establishing 1932 valuations for taxation purposes. A number of other public service corporations also were heard.

The Texas, Oklahoma and Eastern railroad, a short line, was given a final valuation of \$6,250 a mile for main line and \$1,875 a mile for branch track, the same as last year. The company has added 20 miles of track during the year, which increased its total valuation.

Coal county today joined other counties which are protesting before the board against railway valuations. C. A. O'Neil, county assessor of Coal county, charged that despite frequent improvements made by the O. & E. railroad the valuation of the road has been reduced from year to year.

## Several Injured by Shrapnel Explosion

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, May 4.—One man died and a number of workmen were injured when a shrapnel shell exploded in the hands of Miguel Garbosa, Mexican laborer, while he was demolishing a time-ammo dump at Camp Travis.

Gambosa's right hand was severed, his left mangled and he received serious wounds in the chest. The ammunition had been declared defective by the army and civilians were employed to destroy it.

Over-subscribed Brazilian Loan.

NEW YORK, May 4.—Subscriptions for the Brazilian government bond offering of 2,000,000 bonds, normally about \$10,000,000, were announced today.

## The Whippoorwill Ends Rainy Season Says Indian Myth

Short, Sharp Storm Assures Fruit Crop, According to Legend of Red Men

That the short but violent storm early Thursday morning marked the end for several weeks at least of the excessive rainy period and practically clinched the fruit crop in this vicinity this year is the belief of many Tulsans who place their faith in an old Indian legend.

The storm, according to the legend, is called "whippoorwill." The "whippoorwill," according to the belief of the Indians always comes at the end of a long siege of stormy or rainy weather. It usually comes at night and is always violent and generally short. With the coming of the "whippoorwill" the Indians usually celebrated because to them it meant no more cold weather for several months. While it is true that there was little danger of frost this late, the Indian belief is, that the "whippoorwill" absolutely clinches the fruit crop. There will be no frost, neither will wind or hail bring destruction, according to the legend. (Now, all together, let's "pull" for the legend to hold good this year.)

While only 68 of an inch of water fell during the downpour Thursday morning, considerable damage was wrought in the south part of the city, where flood waters from Kendall and the eastern half of the city reached a height of three feet. The heavy wind and hail slightly damaged fruit and shade trees in the city.

The Elva C. Barrows orchard south of Tulsa was not damaged. According to the owner, who said the storm was not as violent there as in town. Crops in the southeastern part of the county suffered little from the storm, according to John T. Kemer, stockman. The rain brought the total precipitation for May to 1.11 inches.

## PEGGY TO HURRY BACK TO STATES

Has Enough of Paris, and Tells Rich Friend to Buy Her Ticket

## DEMPSEY ON SCENE

Is Reported to Have Hurried Back to Paris in Answer to Peggy's Wire

PARIS, May 4.—"Buy me a ticket for the first ship sailing for the United States," hysterical Peggy Joyce this afternoon when she returned from an automobile ride and found a cablegram from her mother, quoting newspaper reports as saying that Peggy was dying. It is believed that this report emanated from the rumor that Peggy had taken an overdose of veronal.

Teller Her Escort.

Peggy was accompanied on the automobile ride by Henri Letour, multimillionaire newspaper owner, who, it is reported may marry Peggy. It was to Letour that Peggy directed her command to lose no time in buying her a steamship ticket.

Jack Dempsey, who rushed here from Berlin it is reported, in response to a telegram from Peggy, is registered at the Claridge, where he was buying another dog to add to the collection he brought with him from Berlin. Both Dempsey and Peggy deny that they have seen each other since the former's arrest.

Peggy said she was very tired and needed a long rest to restore her health.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO.

## Pass Tariff Bill Sept. 29, 1946, That Is, If Present Speed Holds Up, Senator McCumber's Expert Figures

WASHINGTON, May 4.—An estimate that at the present rate the pending tariff bill would be passed on September 29, 1946, was given to the senate today by Senator McCumber, republican, North Dakota, in charge of the measure, who said the estimate was based on the fact that the fact that just two of the two thousand odd committee amendments to the measure have been acted on in 13 days.

"I think that after listening to the debate today," said Senator McCumber, "we will have to act in 30 or 40 days more to that estimate."

Assessing that the tariff bill had not been discussed for one-fifth of the time it had been before the senate, Senator McCumber declared:

## RAPID PROGRESS MADE IN MEXICO BY U. S. OIL MEN

Sinclair, Back in Gotham, Expects Conclusion of Dealings Soon

READY FOR ANY PROBE

Investigation of Teapot Deal by Senate Welcomed by Oil Promoters, He Says

MEXICANS ALSO SATISFIED

Only One Small Difference of Exploitation Proposals Remains to Be Settled

NEW YORK, May 4.—Harry F. Sinclair, who arrived today after a trans-continental dash from Mexico City to the bedside of his sick son, announced that satisfactory progress was being made in the conferences between a committee of five American oil men and Mexican government officials.

"Work of the committee was not concluded when I departed from Mexico City," Mr. Sinclair said. "However, satisfactory progress was being made. Mexican officials gave to the committee their full co-operation. I anticipate that during the present week the mission of the committee will have been concluded and a satisfactory understanding arrived at between the Mexican government and the oil companies operating in Mexico. Since leaving Mexico City I have been advised by the committee that they have definitely settled the matter of taxes on exportation of Mexican oil."

The oil promoter declared he welcomed the "fullest investigation of the negotiations and contract covering development of the Teapot dome structure in Wyoming."

By the Associated Press. MEXICO CITY, May 4.—Commenting on the conclusion of his discussions with the American oil men, Secretary of the Treasury De La Huerta reiterated today that statements of the press regarding the negotiations had been reached. Like the Americans, the Mexican minister indicated that a plan for a pool to exploit all of Mexico's oil resources had been agreed upon.

Only One Slight Difference. "Plans for further exploiting the oil in the republic will be determined later after the different points of view of the Mexican and the petroleum companies are settled," he said. The differences between the companies and the government were caused over the fixing of the value of the clauses of the petroleum agreement, according to the circular issued on April 12, which will apply in toto. As a result also of the conferences, the agreement reached September 30, last, will remain in force. The tax on crude and its derivatives will be fixed later, taking as its base the price of the combustible oil known as "bunker" in the New York market, and once this price is fixed the price of other crude oils will be established automatically.

Minimum Tax Proposed. "A minimum tax will be fixed in order that the government may be safe from any excessive slump in market quotations which might unbalance the receipts from petroleum, fixing a minimum price for this fuel equal to two pesos 50 centavos per barrel."

THE WEATHER

TULSA, May 4.—Maximum 81; minimum 55; north wind; clear; precipitation 0.10 inches.

OKLAHOMA: Friday generally fair, somewhat warmer; Saturday probably fair.

PEKING, May 4.—Reports indicate the forces of Wu Pei Fu have won a sweeping victory at Machang. Kuan Hsien and Shan Sin Tien. Wu is reported to have taken the latter point and is driving towards Fengtai.

The gates of Peking have been closed.

Fengtai is one of Chang Tso-ming's strongest centers. It is from this section that his famous Feng Tain troops come. It has been serving as one of the bases of his campaign.

Britisher Wounded.

E. S. Bennett, vice-consul of the British legation, is in a serious condition as a result of a bullet wound received while watching the fighting. He is the first foreigner reported wounded.

The report of Wu's success came after 12 hours of terrific fighting. Earlier reports said Machang and Kuan Hsien changed hands frequently and claims of victory were made by both Chang Tso-ming and Wu.

Tien Tsin reported that 12 of Chang's troops had passed through there, evidently to reinforce his hand pressed forces at Machang.

## Society Buds Go on Strike As Models at Fashion Show When Shopgirls Are 'Cut In'

Debutantes and Matrons Horror-Stricken, Pause in Procession Across Arena in Rehearsal, as Quartet of Girl Clerks Show Up for Practice—Eyebrows Up and Parasols Down, Order of the Minute—Fashion Managers Capitulate and Shopgirls Retreat.

Society girls on strike!

Impossible, you say, but the impossible happened here Thursday when a choice crop of 1932 debutantes and young society matrons, cast as models in the fashion revue, stopped rehearsing at convention hall because of the late addition of four shop girl models and threatened to stay indefinitely.

The last two scenes of buds had gracefully descended the stage steps and were advancing slowly across the revue arena, swaying slightly in time to the music and gesturing gently as if showing off the lovely frocks which they will adorn and be adorned in Friday evening, when a quartet of women employees of Putters Department store shepherded by the manager, for the first time joined the fashion procession.

The 12 society girls registered more interest than at any other point in proceedings. Eyebrows flared up and smart parasols slammed down. A jade green fan flared coquettishly in the hands of an evening gown model was paused in mid-career and impatient conversation abruptly ended. The imaginary teapots died a sudden death. With an air faintly disapproving they watched the somewhat awkward movements of the would-be shop girl models.

Then the society girls did everything all at once—gathered into a tight little group and conferred, adjourned to the stage and conferred, and from thence sent down an ultimatum that they would neither rehearse longer nor model Friday evening if the Putters employees were to model, too. Distracted fashion revue managers accepted the demands because they could not conveniently do anything else and because Putters, they said, entered the revue very late and tried to use four models instead of the allotted one.

"Music!" cried the director and the rehearsal was on again from the beginning. The society girls had won the strike. The shop girls were withdrawn.

But a shop girl had the final part to play. "Well, anyway, we don't smoke cigarettes back in the wings like I seen one of them girls doing," she muttered.

The "strikers" were Glenn Earne, Ambie Hargens, June Rowland, Gertrude Woods, Dorothy Weber, Rosalind Hollow, Betty Brower, Genevieve Melander, Grace Connolly, Mrs. Paul Vernon, Mrs. Clyde Steinberger and Mrs. Robert Castleman Holloway.

WU PEI FU WINS INITIAL VICTORY

His Success Follows 12 Hours of Terrific Fighting, Report

MAJORITY BACKING WU

General Belief Is That Final Victory for Tso-Lin Means Wind-Up for Republic

Near Peking's Gates

Fengtai toward which Wu Pei Fu's troops are driving is almost in the shadow of the walls of Peking.

His capture by Wu would make certain the investment which have already been studied by both the Mexican and the petroleum companies are settled, he said. The differences between the companies and the government were caused over the fixing of the value of the clauses of the petroleum agreement, according to the circular issued on April 12, which will apply in toto. As a result also of the conferences, the agreement reached September 30, last, will remain in force. The tax on crude and its derivatives will be fixed later, taking as its base the price of the combustible oil known as "bunker" in the New York market, and once this price is fixed the price of other crude oils will be established automatically.

These concessions already have been virtually secured to De Valera by the document agreed to by Michael Collins and Richard Mulcahy as the Anglo-Irish peace treaty prescribes that "free State elections shall be held within 12 months of the signature of the document."

Get Many Concessions. These concessions already have been virtually secured to De Valera by the document agreed to by Michael Collins and Richard Mulcahy as the Anglo-Irish peace treaty prescribes that "free State elections shall be held within 12 months of the signature of the document."

## TWO SLAIN WHEN GUNMEN BATTLE WITH CITIZENS

Three Fatally Wounded; Kidnaping of Officer Is the Cause

POLICEMAN IS SEIZED

Traffic Cop Carried Out of Canton, Ill., as He Tries to Stop Speeders

POSSE GOES IN PURSUIT

Battle Follows When Officers and Citizens Surround Band on a Farm

CANTON, Ohio, May 4.—Two men were killed and five were wounded, three probably fatally, in a gun fight late today between a posse and four gunmen, which was staged about five miles north of here. The battle, which lasted more than an hour, followed the kidnaping of the gunman of Motorcycle Policeman John Wisc. Several hundred shots were fired.

The dead: Ralph W. Hoffie, 28, Canton, contractor, member posse. Unidentified member of gunman crowd.

Most seriously injured: Harry Harper, 36, Cleveland, one of the gunmen, shotgun wounds in head, condition critical.

George Brainer, gunman, shot through head, not expected to live. Joe Plato, fugitive, shot in groin, critical.

Papers found in the pockets of the latter two, give their address as Buffalo.

Patrolman Jesse Vogeley was shot through the right leg and Robert Boston, a posseman, was shot in the left foot.

Gunmen Open Fire. The gunmen kidnaped Wisc when he attempted to arrest them for speeding in an automobile just inside the city limits. As the officer stopped them the bandits forced him at the point of revolvers to get into their car and then turned their machine and headed north. Witnesses notified the police who started in pursuit. They soon were joined by several scores of citizens. When the bandits found they were being overtaken, they abandoned their car and took refuge in a farm where they were surrounded by the posse and the first automobile with police department.

Surrounded by Posse. The other three fugitives then abandoned Wisc and fled into a small woods half a mile away where they were surrounded by the posse and the fight proceeded, until all of the gunmen had been wounded and captured. They were brought to a local hospital where they are under guard and the local authorities declare they have evidence that the gunmen had come here to aid John S. Stephens, alias "Oklahoma Slim," who is said to be wanted in a number of cities on robbery charges to escape from the workhouse here.

## WOOD ALLOWED TO REMAIN

Major General May Remain in Philippines After September 1.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—President Harding today notified Major General Wood that he himself, must decide whether he shall retain the governor generalship of the Philippines after September 1, or serve the office to fill his agreement with the University of Pennsylvania to become its provost.

Such a notification was sent to General Wood today by the president after Secretary Weeks had taken to a White House conference a refusal of the University of Pennsylvania to extend the general's leave for six months after September 1, as requested by Mr. Weeks.

## FIVE AFTERNOONS OF PLEASURE AND PROFIT AT WORLD'S BETTER HOMES EXPOSITION

Combining the pleasure of entertainment with the profit of instruction, The World's Better Homes Exposition in convention hall promptly at 1 o'clock next Monday afternoon.

The numerous exhibits, attractively displayed and arranged with a view of facilitating inspection, will form an interesting feature of the exposition and lend a gala appearance to the great auditorium. These exhibits are planned to include furniture, draperies, wall paper and paints, electrical appliances, musical instruments, pictures and art goods, china, glassware, laundry and bathroom accessories—everything, in fact, that makes for convenience or beauty in and about the home.

## Former U. S. Senator Is Dead at His Home



Asa J. Gronna.

LAKOTA, N. D., May 4.—Asa J. Gronna, former United States senator from North Dakota, died at his home here tonight. He was 64 years old. Mr. Gronna recently returned from Rochester, Minn., where he underwent an operation.

## WOMAN'S SLAYER IS ELECTROCUTED

Watkins Pays for Crime of Killing the Wife of His Neighbor

## MET DEATH QUIETLY

Says He Goes to Rest and Is Not Afraid; Wanted All to Meet Him in Heaven

By the Associated Press Staff Wire. MALESTER, May 4.—Sam Watkins, 32, confessed slayer of Mrs. Cora Jones, the wife of a neighboring farmer, near Caney, was electrocuted at the state penitentiary here shortly after midnight. Watkins went to the chair at 12:14 a. m. and was pronounced dead three minutes later. The current was applied twice.

Watkins met his fate with more composure than probably any man who ever went to the chair at the prison. When asked if he had anything to say, Watkins, faced the official witnesses and replied: "I want to say this. It is that I can come in here like a man. I can hold up my right hand and say that I am going to rest forever and that the heavy and eager hand of the Lord is as good as anybody can be. I wish them all to meet me in heaven. I want you all to understand that I have nerve to stand up before you. I am going to rest and I am not scared at all."

Stood Up Like a Man. "This is the first time in my life that I was ever inside a pen—and I am to die in death and I can stand up like a man looking at these gentlemen and walk cheerfully to the chair and take my medicine."

"I want you all to understand that I am not afraid."

After he was strapped in the chair, he said: "I will be with you in heaven. God be with you all."

The crime to which Watkins pleaded guilty, without trial, was one of the most brutal in the history of the state. Watkins confessed he killed the woman with a club in the presence of her two children, and then threw the body into a hog lot. He confessed he attempted to assault his victim. The slaying occurred CONTINUED ON PAGE FIFTEEN.

## SCORES INJURED WHEN TWISTER STRIKES AUSTIN

Entire Family Wiped Out in Oak Hill Suburb; One Death at Austin

BUILDINGS WRECKED

Hundreds in Two Schools and Woodworking Plant Have Very Narrow Escapes

PUT LOSS AT HALF MILLION

Police and Civilians Search Ruins of Dwellings for Additional Victims

AUSTIN, Texas, May 4.—Nine dead, 28 injured, 2 probably fatally, and property damage estimated at \$400,000 was the toll of death and destruction in the wake of a tornado which late today swept through the West side of Austin and on out of the city to Oak Hill, eight miles southwest, according to a check of the situation late tonight.

The dead are: Mrs. John Bergsley, ar. Mrs. Ada Bergsley, ar. Mrs. J. S. Thompson, ar. Mrs. J. S. Thompson, jr. John S. Thompson, jr. Maria Kinchen, negro. S. S. Scales, 15, negro, at Manchaca, eight miles south. Laura Russell, 22, negro, Manchaca.

Eighteen-months-old baby of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Padgett was also reported to have been killed by a flying timber. Another is Mrs. W. F. Woodman. A small stick was driven through her face.

The majority of the injured are employees of the Woodward Manufacturing company, a woodwork establishment located at Penn field, a mile south of the city. Others are injured in the negro institute, laundry, demolished and dormitory room torn off, 35,000 to residences and buildings in South Austin.

College Students Safe. None of the students of the University of Texas or inmates of the other eleemosynary institutions were injured nor were any of the buildings damaged.

The tornado struck the Woodward plant squarely amidships, tearing through the three buildings. The employees, about 78 in all, had time to leave the buildings and were running for safety when the storm overtook them. Some were carried through the air for short distances. Those injured were struck by flying timbers.

The students at St. Edwards collected in the northward building, saw the storm approaching. The dormitory was partially destroyed. The negro students at the deaf, dumb and blind institute were moved to a building. The two injured were struck as they were entering the building. Damage was estimated at \$40,000. The laundry was demolished a dormitory, and unroofed.

People Watch Storm. The storm approached Austin from the north and hundreds of people on the downtown streets watched the whirling cloud pass over the west section of the city. It first struck at the negro institute, where the inmates, all huddled in one building, were safe. Damage was done to all the other buildings of the institution.

It dipped again at Deep Eddy, a small 100 foot building in which a supper camping ground lay outside the west city limits. Here it cut rating a number of summer cottages and smashing trees. One woman was blown from her cottage to the cottage of a neighbor and was buried in a pile of debris. Though she was lifted more than 100 feet, she was reported not to be seriously injured. Cutting across the river, where it cut down the tops of trees, engulfed in the high water, the twister apparently dropped closer to the ground and increased in velocity.

In South Austin, across the Colorado river, and in Travis Heights, a South Austin suburb, it caused considerable property damage, demolishing several houses.

Several scores injured were reported at hospitals at a late hour. Most of the injured came from Penn field, where the twister did the most damage. Injured persons were coming to the hospitals out of the area.

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT